



Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

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June 12, 2014

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

From : Victor Fitz, President Elect

Re: Senate Bill 866 (S-2) and Senate Bill 867 (S-1)

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM) supports SB 866 (S-2) and SB 867 (S-1), and we thank Senator Smith for his efforts on this, as well as reaching out to PAAM.

By 2030, one-fourth of Michigan's adult population will be over the age of 65 years old. As our population ages, we must give added protection to those adults who have a decreased ability to withstand injury and assault.

This legislation clearly prohibits assaults targeted against elderly and vulnerable adults. It applies proportionate penalties based upon the degree of injury inflicted on our most vulnerable citizens. The legislation rightfully holds those offenders who target the elderly accountable, and should work as a tool to deter such criminal activity in the first place. The penalties are in-line with similar statutes such as the assaulting a police officer act.

Again, PAAM supports SB 866 (S-2) and 867 (S-1), and we thank the Senate Judiciary Committee for taking up this issue.